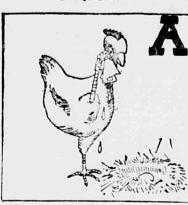
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PRICES AND MIDDLEMEN.



QUESTION which a valued reader asks is occurring to tens of thousands of people. He says:

"Where are the decreased prices that were everywhere prophesied to follow close on the heels of the panie? Personally I have not found them anywhere. I refer to the prophesied drop in the cost of living."

One place where lower prices can be found is in the advertising columns of this newspaper. Take today's paper and compare the ad-

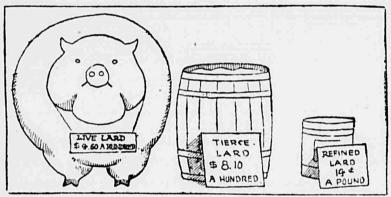
vertisements now appearing with the offerings and prices quoted months ago. Everything is cheaper, particularly those goods which the great department stores buy direct from the manufacturer.

The value of the advertising columns of a newspaper with wide circulation among the consuming public is that thereby manufacturers are enabled quickly to exchange their goods for cash.

Therein consists the great advantage of the modern department store to both consumer and manufacturer. Stores with thousands of customers can afford to take all of a manufacturer's stock, paying him at once the cash which he needs and being assured that by truthful advertising they can speedily sell these goods at a reasonable profit. Such things as coats, dresses, hats, shoes, furniture, curtains, umbrellas, clocks, underwear, stockings, pianos, dressing sacques, wrappers, blankets, sheets, pillow cases and like necessities of living are selling at reductions of from 10% to 40% from the prices at which they could be purchased before

However, the criticism is entirely correct that all prices have not come down. The price of kerosene has not been reduced. The Standard Oil Company controls that. The price of coal has not been reduced. The Anthracite Coal Trust fixes that. The price of lumber is kept up by the Lumber Trust.

The price of live hogs paid to the farmer has dropped \$2 per 100 pounds, or one-third. It would be thought that the price of lard would also be reduced a third. The price of tierce lard has been reduced one-fifth.



Refined lard has dropped 10%. Lard in tins sells perhaps one cent a pound less. The successive middlemen, beginning with the Packing Trust at Chicago, have absorbed to themselves the drop in prices.

Likewise in eggs. The wholesale price of storage eggs, which make up four-fifths of the consumption, has dropped to less than 20 cents a dozen. Yet not one grocer in ten gives his customers the full benefit of the drop. Meat of all kinds has dropped, as the farmers' quotations in the agricultural papers prove. There should be a corresponding reduction by the retailer of 25%. How many retailers have made that cut?

When wholesale prices rise the middlemen promptly jump their

prices, and the retail price goes up within twenty-four hours. When such commodities as meat, butter, of the to DAY TO DAY primary prices drop, especially in long string of middlemen, each middleman holds to the increased profit as long as he can.

Consumers will not get the benefit of lower prices until they buy more intelligently, for it is not natural for any seller to charge less than he can get or to lower his price



before he has to. If every reader of this paper would consult its advertising columns thing like that, and much you appreciate it! before buying he would realize how much prices have dropped, for every advertisement is necessarily a story of low prices and good purchases. Nobody advertises staple supplies at a higher price than they can reasonably be sold for.

Letters from the People.

Not a Tree; a Parasite Plant.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

Is the mistletoe a tree or does it grow upon another tree? IGNORANT. The mistletoe is a parasite plant, attaching itself to the trunk or branches, of some large tree.

To the Editor of The Evening World: uptown trains run far too seldom. Thea- your paper supply readers with copies tre and opera crowds at Twenty-third, of missing articles upon request? If so, Thirty-fourth and Forty-second street I want to apply for some

Women in Business Offices.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

loafing there would be more successful ones with bright minds, more women by their own firesides and less men on the list of unemployed. INDEPENDENT.

of some large tree.

Infrequent Ninth Avenue Trains.

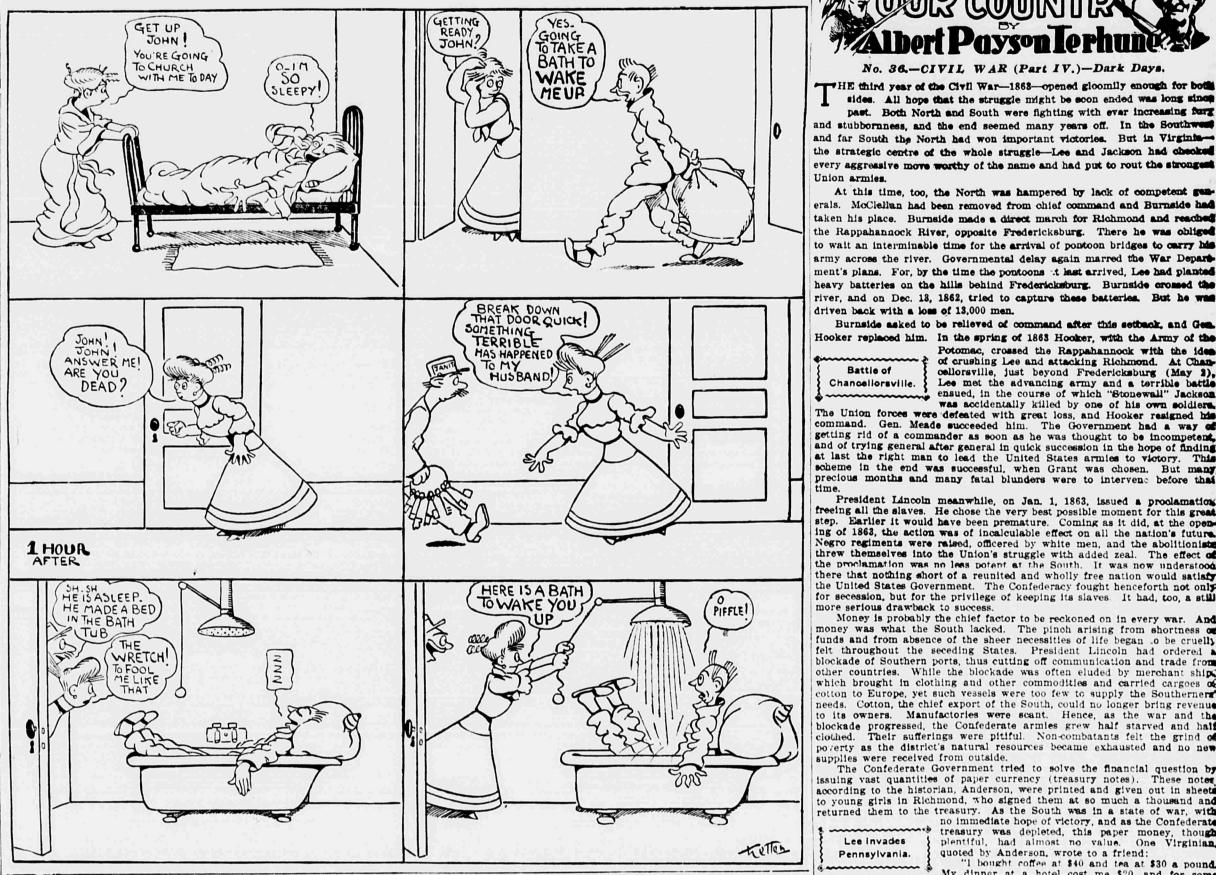
To the Editor of The Evening World:
I have been saving some series on wars and other topics in your paper, In the late evening the Ninth avenue and I have missed one or two. Can

MRS, P. C., Long Island City,

CHARLES L. HAYDE. I have been very much interested in the letters on the subject of girls objecting to the men smoking in the of fice, and would like to express my "Unemployed" is evidently not broad-views of the matter. I am a stenogminded enough to recognize the acknowledged fact that employers of the present time in the majority of cases prefer the services of young women in offices, owing to their superior ability fort they seem to derive from the comfort they seem to derive from a company to the company offices, owing to their superior ability in the handling of work requiring brains, good conscientious work and close application to the smallest details of business. They can be reiled upon and found at their desks at all times. It is quite true that there is not a position in the business world to-day that cannot be successfully filled by a wolf and do not object to a man having a little comfort in the office in the way of a smoke. BROOKELYN GIRL.

The Day of Rest.

By Maurice Ketten.



You Can't Save Your Money and Spend It, Too, Says the Wise Mr. Jarr; But It Isn't Poor Woman Alone Who Needs This Axiom Hurled at Her.

By Roy L. McCardell.

64 HERE'S a sale of shirts at seventy-nine cents," said get some. You'll need some new shirts next summer."

to save money you have to take advantage of opportunities like this. And here's a sale of chinaware, a hundred and fifty piece set, the fifty dellar kind, at seventeen dellars and forty-nine cents. Now, that is a bargain. You know how the servants are always breaking dishes. They hide the until you have company and find you are short of cups and your idea of saving money is to buy something with it! saucers. If they had to pay for them they wouldn't be so

'And you think that's the true economy?" asked Mr. Jarr. "Why, of course," said Mrs. Jarr. "Isn't it?

"In the first place," said Mr. Jarr, "how are the family finances? Have you any nomical kid!" money? No. Have I any money? No. Paying for all the things I had to pay for "That was New Year's, all the end of the month bills and all the other ones to close up the Mr. Jarr. year's accounts' as they say, I'm all in financially." "But I can pay a small deposit and have these things held for me," said Mrs. she walked into the next room and slammed the door. Jarr. "Or I can order them home next week C. O. D."

you've just bought a set?" asked Mr. Jarr.

"But they will be needed by summer," said Mrs. Jarr, 'Yes, and we may all be dead by summer," said Mr. Jarr,

"Oh, well, if you'd prefer to waste the money, have it your own way," said Mrs. Jarr, looking up from the paper. "The advertisement says 'best quality,' too. You ought to

some. You'll need some new shirts next summer."

"Yes," said Mr. Jarr. "But, don't you see that there is no economy in buying things when you haven't the money, or have to go in debt, practically speaking, or "Ah," replied Mrs. Jarr, "but that's just it. If you want do without more important things? No matter how cheap things are what's the

"Ah, don't look at the thing that way," said Mr. Jarr. "What we ought to do pieces in the ashcan, and you never know they are broken is to save a little money now, if we can. You are like all the rest of the women; "It is not!" said Mrs. Jarr. "Why, as you have just been saying, we haven't any money.

waste? And I don't thank you for those gutter expressions, calling me an 'eco- line and bait of his own flesh and bone.

army across the river. Governmental delay again marred the War Depart ment's plans. For, by the time the pontoons at last arrived, Lee had planted heavy batteries on the hills behind Fredericksburg. Burnside crossed the river, and on Dec. 13, 1862, tried to capture these batteries. But he was driven back with a loss of 13,000 men. Burnside asked to be relieved of command after this setback, and Gen.

No. 36 .- CIVIL WAR (Part IV.)-Dark Days. HE third year of the Civil War-1868-opened gloomily enough for both sides. All hope that the struggle might be soon ended was long since

past. Both North and South were fighting with ever increasing forg

At this time, too, the North was hampered by lack of competent gen

Potomac, crossed the Rappahannock with the idea of crushing Lee and attacking Richmond. At Chancellorsville, just beyond Fredericksburg (May 2), Lee met the advancing army and a terrible battle ensued, in the course of which "Stonewall" Jackson was accidentally killed by one of his own soldiers. The Union forces were defeated with great loss, and Hooker resigned his

command. Gen. Meade succeeded him. The Government had a way of getting rid of a commander as soon as he was thought to be incompetent and of trying general after general in quick succession in the hope of finding at last the right man to lead the United States armies to victory. This scheme in the end was successful, when Grant was chosen. But many precious months and many fatal blunders were to intervene before that

President Lincoln meanwhile, on Jan. 1, 1863, issued a proclamation freeing all the slaves. He chose the very best possible moment for this great step. Earlier it would have been premature. Coming as it did, at the opening of 1863, the action was of incalculable effect on all the nation's future. Negro regiments were raised, officered by white men, and the abolitionists threw themselves into the Union's struggle with added zeal. The effect of the proclamation was no less potent at the South. It was now understood there that nothing short of a reunited and wholly free nation would satisfy the United States Government. The Confederacy fought henceforth not only for secession, but for the privilege of keeping its slaves. It had, too, a still more serious drawback to success.

Money is probably the chief factor to be reckoned on in every war. And money was what the South lacked. The pinch arising from shortness of funds and from absence of the sheer necessities of life began to be cruelly felt throughout the seceding States. President Lincoln had ordered a blockade of Southern ports, thus cutting off communication and trade from other countries. While the blockade was often eluded by merchant ships which brought in clothing and other commodities and carried cargoes of cotton to Europe, yet such vessels were too few to supply the Southerners' needs. Cotton, the chief export of the South, could no longer bring revenue to its owners. Manufactories were scant. Hence, as the war and the blockade progressed, the Confederate armies grew half starved and half clothed. Their sufferings were pitiful. Non-combatants felt the grind of poverty as the district's natural resources became exhausted and no new

supplies were received from outside.

The Confederate Government tried to solve the financial question by issuing vast quantities of paper currency (treasury notes). These notes according to the historian, Anderson, were printed and given out in sheets to young girls in Richmond, who signed them at so much a thousand and returned them to the treasury. As the South was in a state of war, with no immediate hope of victory, and as the Confederate treasury was depleted, this paper money, though

Lee Invades plentiful, had almost no value. Pennsylvania.

quoted by Anderson, wrote to a friend: "I bought coffee at \$40 and tea at \$30 a pound. My dinner at a hotel cost me \$20, and for some wretched tallow candles I paid \$10 a pound. 'Before the war,' a facetious friend tells me, 'I went to market with money in my pocket and brought back my purchases in a basket. Now I take the money in a basket and bring the purchases home in my pocket.' Money is of so little value that we part with it gladly whenever it will purchase anything desirable."

This lack of funds and of necessaries did not dampen the military ardor of the South. It stimulated the Confederates to increased activity in pursuing the war. When Lee beat the Army of the Potomac at Chancellorsville he pushed forward with about 100,000 men in a daring, brilliant raid of the Northern States. Passing through Maryland, he invaded Pennsylvania. The whole North was aghast. Heretofore the war had been largely one of Union aggression. But now a Southern army had marched successfully free States, and might, if unchecked, attack Philadelphia or New York. In

"Lee will stable his horses in Fanueil Hall, Boston, and dictate peace terms in New York.'

It was the decisive moment of the Civil War.

Fishes That Fish and Shoot.

By William Abados.

careless."

"Who," asked Mr. Jarr, "the company?"

"And why haven't we any money?" asked Mr. Jarr. "Because you are always
"Certainly not; the servants," said Mrs. Jarr. "I think I ought to get a set of
dishes. I just bought a new set a few weeks ago and paid more than that for
dishes. I just bought a new set a few weeks ago and paid more than that for

"The fish item and then you are told is worth fifteen, and then you are told is worth fifteen. isnes. I just bought a new set and put them away so's to have them in ting something you are told is worth fifteen, and then you say 'I've saved five wormlike appendage. The fish lies quietly on the bottom and awaits a nibble. dollars. I'm the economical kid! When really you have wasted ten dollars!" Soon a minnow makes a dash for the waving luscious morsel. The huge mouth "Wasted ten dollars!" shrieked Mrs. Jarr. "When have I had ten dollars to opens, and—the finny angler has dined! A veritable Shylock, this, with rod,

Perhaps the most terrible invention of man is the rifle, by which he can "That was only a joke; you are not a kid and you are not economical," said slay when far from his victim. And this fact makes the shooting fish of Java a more interesting creature, writes William Abados in the Sunday Magazine. "Don't you ever speak to me again as long as you live!" said Mrs. Iarr, and fly alights on a leaf, a foot or more above the surface, basking in the sun, its many faceted eyes on the lookout for danger in all directions except below. A Then Mr. Jarr went downtown in a very grouchy state of mind until, as he small fish rises slowly through the water and carefully protrudes its long Then Mr. Jarr went downtown in a very groundy state of mind until, as he passed a cigar store near the office, he saw there was a special sale of a brand he pointed snow into the air. A long water and carring provides its long passed a cigar store near the office, he saw there was a special sale of a brand he pointed snow into the air. A long water follows, when the fish is apparently itself at a fifty-cent reduction, and he bought two boxes and gave one to his boss, and it is a great favorite on account of its curious habit. When it becomes accustomed to its new surroundings, it will readily shoot at a fly or bit of meat held between the fingers.

Women the Best Fibbers.

By Edna Wallace Hopper.

N oath does mean something to a woman, but she is more clever than

the man when placed on in a better way.

A woman will lie and fib if it is necessary, but back of it all there is more tact used than she is generally given credit for. Any woman is more tact used than she is generally given credit for. Any woman the stand to testify should know perfectly well what she is going the stand to testify should know perfectly well what she is going the stand to testify should know perfectly well what she is going the stand to testify should know perfectly well what she is going the stand to testify should know perfectly well what she is going the stand to testify should know perfectly well what she is going the stand to testify should know perfectly well what she is going the stand to testify should know perfectly well what she is going the stand to testify should know perfectly well what she is going the stand to testify should know perfectly well what she is going the stand to testify should know perfectly well what she is going the stand to testify should know perfectly well what she is going the stand to testify should know perfectly well what she is going the stand to testify should know perfectly well what she is going the stand to testify should know perfectly well what she is going the stand to testify should know perfectly well what she is going the stand to testify should know perfectly well what she is going to the stand to testify should know perfectly well what she is going to the stand to testify the stand to test

I would not believe a man in the world. They tell little falsities, but usually entrap themselves. There can be no great division, however, between the man and woman when it comes to perjury, as the man will tell a lie just as readily as a woman, and vice versa.

How Adam Was Punished.

PROMINENT pastor tells this story; 'I visited a certain school one day where Bible instruction was pert A "I visited a certain school one day of the daily course, and in order to test the children's knowledge, asked of the daily course, and in order to test the children's knowledge, asked some questions. One class of little girls looked particularly bright, and I asked the tallest one: 'What sin did Adam commit?'

'He ate forbidden fruit.'

"'Right. Who tempted Adam?"

"'Not really Eve, but the serpent. And how was Adam punished?" "The girl hesitated and looked confused. Behind her sat a little eighe-

ear-old, who raised her hand and said: 'Please, pastor, I know.'

"Well, tell us. How was Adam punished?"
"He had to marry Eve."—Harper's Weekly.

Oddities in the News.

HE Southern Pacific has forbidden the employees in its lumber yards to wear stiff hats or boiled shirts. Laborers complained that those so contumed "lorded" it over the others.

In contesting a damage suit by a woman against Willimantic, Conn., Mayor Dunn said she couldn't have put her foot in the hole, because he couldn't. His

